Approved For Release 2005/06/29: CIA-RDP65B00383R000200170031-0

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
MCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 32386 (9 Oct 63)

H/ptl

ACTION : NIN-9.

INFO: XPD-3, XOP-1, XOPX-4, JCS-25, ARMY-2, NAVY-2, CMC-8, DIA-25,

DIA/CIIC-2, CIA-1], NSA-7, SMB-1 (101)

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OFM PACAF

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RUAUAZ/5AF FUCHU AS JAPAN

RUAOKA/313AIRDIV KADENA AB GKI

RUAOKM/18TACFTRWG KADENA AB OKI

RUAUAR/3BOMBWG YOKOTA AB JAPAN

RUAUAS/6100SPTWG TACHIKAWA AB JAPAN

RUAUAR/67TECH REC SQ YOKOTA AB JAPAN

RUAROP/314AIRDIV OSAN AB KOREA

RUMALC/13AF CLARK AB PHIL

RUAKBD/ATF 13 P TAIPEL AS TAIWAN

RUAUAU/6499SPTGP JOHNSON AS JAPAR

RUAUAF/39AIRDIV MISAWA AB JAPAN

RUAUARZ41AIRDIV YOKOTA AB JAPAN

RUAUAG/STACFTRWG ITAZUKE AB JAPAN

RUAUAZ/1 WEAWG FUCHU AS JAPAN

RUCDAA/AWS SCOTT AFB ILL

RUE AHQ/CSAF

RUCQSW/AU

RUMAGL/SECOND AIRDIV TAN SON WHUT AFLD VIETWAM

RUAOKH/51FTRINTCPWG NAHA AB OKI

RUMBC/CHJUSMAG THAILAND

RUMBD/6010TACGP DON MUANG APRT THAILAND

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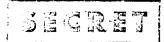
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RUMPER OLDO ANDALT RUMGZLYDOM SEVENTHFLT BT

S E C R E T PFIWA 7659 CSAF CY FOR SECTION 1 OF 2

AFNIN, AFOOP, AND AFXPD. AU CY FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY COURSE, AC&SC. THAILAND CY FOR AC/S INTELLIGENCE.

AC/S INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NR 118-63. THIS MESSAGE IN FIVE PARTS.

PART I. REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

CONTINUING ITERNAL DISSATISFACTION WITH THE REGIME OF PRESIDENT DIEM WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY TWO SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OVER THE VEEKEND. THE FIRST WAS THE SIXTH SELF-IMMOLATION SUICIDE PROTEST BY BUDDHISTS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT SINCE MAY WHILE THE SECOND INVOLVED THE DEFECTION OF A VNAF FIGHTER PILOT TO CAMBODIA WITH AN A-1H AIRCRAFT. ALSO, IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUDDHIST MOUK'S SUICIDE. THERE IS CORRESPONDENTS WERE SET UPON AND MAULED BY POLICE STEENFING TO PREVENT PHOTOGRAPHING OF THE BONZE. THE US HAS LADGED AN OFFICIAL PROTEST OVER THE INCIDENT WHICH WILL FURTHER ESTRANGE ALREADY STRAINED WESTERN PRESS RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM.

CONCERNING THE SELF-DESTRUCTION BY THE BUDDHIST MONK, AMBASSADOR LODGE REPORTS THAT A LEADING BUDDHIST SPOKESMAN IN SAIGON HAS INDICATED THERE ARE AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED BUDDHIST (BONZES AND LAYMEN) WILLING TO KILL THEMSELVES IF

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GIVEN PERMISSION BY SECT LEADERS. ALSO, THAT PROTEST GEST-URES, PERHAPS INCLUDING FURTHER SUICIDES, MIGHT BE ORGANIZED FOR THE US CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING THE SITUATION IN THE RVN.

THE DEFECTION INCIDENT OCCURRED DURING A ROUTINE FERRY
FLIGHT FROM BIEN HOA TO DA NANG WHEN THE FLIGHT LEADER, AFTER
TAKEOFF, PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TOWARD PHNOM PENH. HIS WINGMAN
BROKE OFF AT THE CAMBODIAN BORDER AND RETURNED TO BASE. COL
HIEN, VNAF COMMANDER, STATED THE DEFECTION MAY BE THE RESULT
OF PERSONAL FRICTION WITH THE SQUADRON COMMANDER BUT MOST
LOKELY WAS DUE TO POLITICAL DISSATISFACTION. THE VNAF CAPTAIN HAS ASKED FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN CANBODIA, CLAIMING
HE NO LONGER WANTS TO SERVE A GOVERNMENT HOSTILE TO THE
BUDDHISTS.

MEANWHILE, VIET CONG ACTIVITY DURING THE WEEK OF 26
SEPTEMBER -H2 OCTOBER CONTINUED AT A HIGH LEVEL BUT DID NOT
REACH THE RECORD PEAK OF TWO WEEKS AGO. THERE WERE MORE
ATTACKS THAN THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND ONE COMPANY-SIZE ATTACK
WAS REPORTED FROM THE II CORPS AREA WHICH NETTED THE VIET
CONG MANY WEAPONS. THE I AND III CORPS REPORTED A LIGHT DECLINE OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITY THIS WEEK, BUT THE III CORPS RECORDED A SIZEABLE INCREASE OF ENEMY ACTIONS FOR THE SECOND

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CONSECUTIVE WEEK. THE IV CORPS ALSO REPORTED INCREASED

COMMUNIST ACTIVITY, ONE-THIRD OVER THAT OF LAST WEEK. ARMED

ATTACKS CONTINUED HIGH AGAINST STRATEGIC HANLETS.

VIET CONG ACTIVITY UP TO MID-AUGUST WAS CHARACTERIZED BY

ONE TO TWO WEEKS OF INTENSIFIED ACTIVITY FOLLOWED BY A DECLINE

OF FOUR TO FIVE WEEKS. THE VIET CONG HAVE NOW MAINTAINED A

HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY FOR THE LAST FIVE WEEKS INDICATING AN

ABILITY TO SUSTAIN MILITARY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES LONGER THAN

TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS. (S)

CMCERNING CASUALTIES, RVN PERSONNEL LOSSES DROPPED FROM

CMCERNING CASUALTIES, RVN PERSONNEL LUSSES DROPPED FROM
THE HIGH OF LAST WEEK, 827 TO 400, INCLUDING 128 KILLED. VIET
CONG LOSSES DROPPED AS SHARPLY AS THOSE OF THE RVN, FROM 847 TO
442. OF WHICH 355 WERE KILLED. RVN TO TIET CONG TOTAL PERSONNEL LOSSES FOR THE PERIOD APPEAR ABOUT EQUAL, HOWEVER, THE RVN
RETAINED A FAVORABLE KILL RATIO OF 2.8 TO 1.

IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, ON2 OCTOBER 1963, J-2 MACV RECEIVED ITS FIRST TANGIBLE ALTHOUGH UNCONFIRMED EVIDENCE OF POSSIBLE INFILTRATION OF A MILITARY UNIT INTO THE RVN IN 1963, WHEN A PRISONER-OF-WAR REPORT DATED 11 SEPTEMBER 1963 WAS FORWARDED FROM ARVN I CORPS. ACCORDING TO THE PW, HIS UNIT WAS FORMED AT THE END OF 1962 AND RECEIVED INFILTRATION TRAINING AT VINH, NORTH VIETNAM. IN JANUARY 1963, THE UNIT, CONSISTING

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OF 5 OFFICERS AND 102 MEN, COMMENCED ITS TRIP BY TRUCK AND FOOT ALONG THE LAOS/RVN BORDER TO QUANG TIN PROVINCE IN THE NORTHERN HIGHLANDS. IN MID-APRIL 1963, THE GROUP REACHED THE SITE OF HEADQUARTERS, 1ST VIET CONG REGIMENT, LOCATED IN WAR ZONE "X", AND WAS FORMED INTO THREE PLATCONS. ANOTHER REPORT OF INFILTRATION WAS RECEIVED UNEW A VIETN CONG PRIVATE CAPTURED INAN GIANG PROVIDEN (DELTA AREA) ON 14 SEPTEMBER 1963, INDICATED HIS UNIT MAD LEGENTLY ENTRED THE RVN FROM PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA. HE THE TIER STATED HIS COMPANY OF 100 MEN ENTERED THE RVA ALGAD DALLERATION ROUTES THE PARTY ENGLISHED FOR THIS UTILIZING A SERIES OF UNIT IS OBTAINED FROM PARKON PARK ON AND A MACK'S OVER-ALL CONCLUSION FOR THE DEFORTAGE INCLUDING MEVICES NO CHANGE IN VET CONG CAPABILITIES. (S) PART LE. VOUNESLAVALAYSIA THE CONFRON-TATION BETWEEN INDONESIA LAD LARGE ALAD LARGES WITH MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER RAHMAN APPARENTLY UPPING THE STAKES SLIGHTLY BY NOW DEMANDING, AS A PRECONDITION TO ANY SUBNIT MEETING, THAT SUKARNO OPENLY DISCREDIT THE COMMUNISTS IN ADDITION TO ABIDING BY THE MANILA AGREEMENTS. THIS ACTION OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE PHILIPPINE FO-REIGN SECRETARY LOPEZ'S REPORT THAT BUNARMS HAD INFORMED THE PHI-LLIPPINES ON 6 OCTOBER HE UND PREFARED TO ATTEND A SUMMIT MEETING

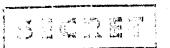
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"WITHOUT ANY CONDITIONS WHATSOEVER".

IT APPEARS RAHMAN FEELS MALAYSIA IS IN A FAVORABLE POSITION INTERNA-TIONALLY WHILE INDONESIA ENJOYS LITTLE SUPPORT AND IS ECONOMICALLY CONCERNED, THEREFORE HIS BEST COURSE OF ACTION IS TO SIT TIGHT AND SEE HOW THE SITUATION DEVELOPS.

NOTE: Sec II 1s AFIN 30215 (8 Oct 63).

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